

REMEDIATION AND REDEVELOPMENT (RR) NEWS FROM WISCONSIN DNR

March 10, 2005

BRRTS ON THE WEB "FREEZE"

Our Bureau for Remediation and Redevelopment Tracking System (BRRTS) upgrade is almost here! We think you'll like the new features coming for BRRTS on the Web, but in order to make the transition we need to "freeze" the system for about a week in order to install the upgrade. Starting today, **March 10**, BRRTS on the Web will operate normally, but no new information will be added. If you absolutely need new information about a site during the freeze, please contact the regional project manager or program assistant.
http://dnr.wi.gov/org/aw/rr/technical/lists/contact_rr.htm.

Our upgrade will provide an improved search engine with "fuzzy" capability that automatically finds activities when you are uncertain of the exact name or address. You'll be able to simply type in "Jones" or "Main" and the search engine will do the rest. You'll also find the current status (open, closed) of each activity on your list of search results.

FIRST YEAR DATA – CLOSURE PROTOCOL STUDY

The University of Wisconsin presented preliminary data from the first year of work in the "Wisconsin Closure Protocol Study" at a March 4th American Water Resources Association (AWRA) meeting. This data is part of an ongoing study of closed leaking underground storage tanks (LUSTs). Partners in the study, funded by EPA and DNR, include the UW and the Departments of Commerce and Natural Resources. The primary goal of this study is to review the effectiveness of state agency decision making applied to natural attenuation closure protocols at petroleum contaminated sites. Another goal is to identify any site characteristics that may demonstrate a need to modify our data and monitoring requirements in the closure protocol. UW graduate students have created a preliminary database from the files of closed sites, but have completed field study at only two closed LUST sites at this time. Additional database review and fieldwork will continue. The abstract for the AWRA meeting and the Powerpoint slides can be found just under the "Technical Newsletter Articles" header at:
<http://dnr.wi.gov/org/aw/rr/technical/index.htm>.

MODEST INSURANCE FEE INCREASE FOR VPLE SITES USING NATURAL ATTENUATION

A Voluntary Party Liability Exemption (VPLE) allows eligible parties that conduct an environmental investigation and cleanup to receive a fee-based Certificate of Completion (COC) that limits future environmental liability. If a voluntary party is relying on natural attenuation to restore groundwater quality, and wants to receive a COC prior to achieving compliance with the enforcement standards, the voluntary party is required to pay a one-time environmental insurance fee. This fee provides coverage through a state program that will pay for additional environmental expenses should the natural attenuation remedy be unsuccessful. The RR Program recently extended this insurance policy through March of 2006, and for the first time since 2001 the insurance fees have increased, by less than 5%. The new fees are effective March 5, 2005 through March 5, 2006, and are listed on page 3 of "Insurance for Voluntary Party Liability Exemption Sites Using Natural Attenuation: Information and Fee Schedule", on the web at: <http://dnr.wi.gov/org/aw/rr/archives/pubs/RR661.pdf>. If you have questions, please contact Michael Prager at Michael.Prager@dnr.state.wi.us or at 608-261-4927.

BROWNFIELDS 2005 NATIONAL CONFERENCE IN NOVEMBER

The 10th annual Brownfields national conference will be in Denver **November 2-4**, 2005. Visit the conference web site at <http://www.brownfields2005.org/en/index.aspx> for information about:

- Travel Scholarships – **April 29** is the closing date; applications open March 15.

- Call for presentations – **April 29** is the due date for proposals, abstracts and ideas for panel sessions, marketplace roundtables, case studies, and poster presentations.
- Phoenix Awards - **June 30** is the deadline for nominations for achievement in brownfield redevelopment.
- Register – by **October 5**, 2005. Online registration is available.
- Information for Exhibitors – There will be 3 scheduled exhibit hall periods with no concurrent events.